

THREE
P R I V A T E D 214.
L E T T E R S
FROM 82
Persons of Distinction,
IN THE
ARMY at HANAU,
TO THEIR
FRIENDS in LONDON;

Giving a particular Account of the late Battle
between the *English* and *French* Armies.

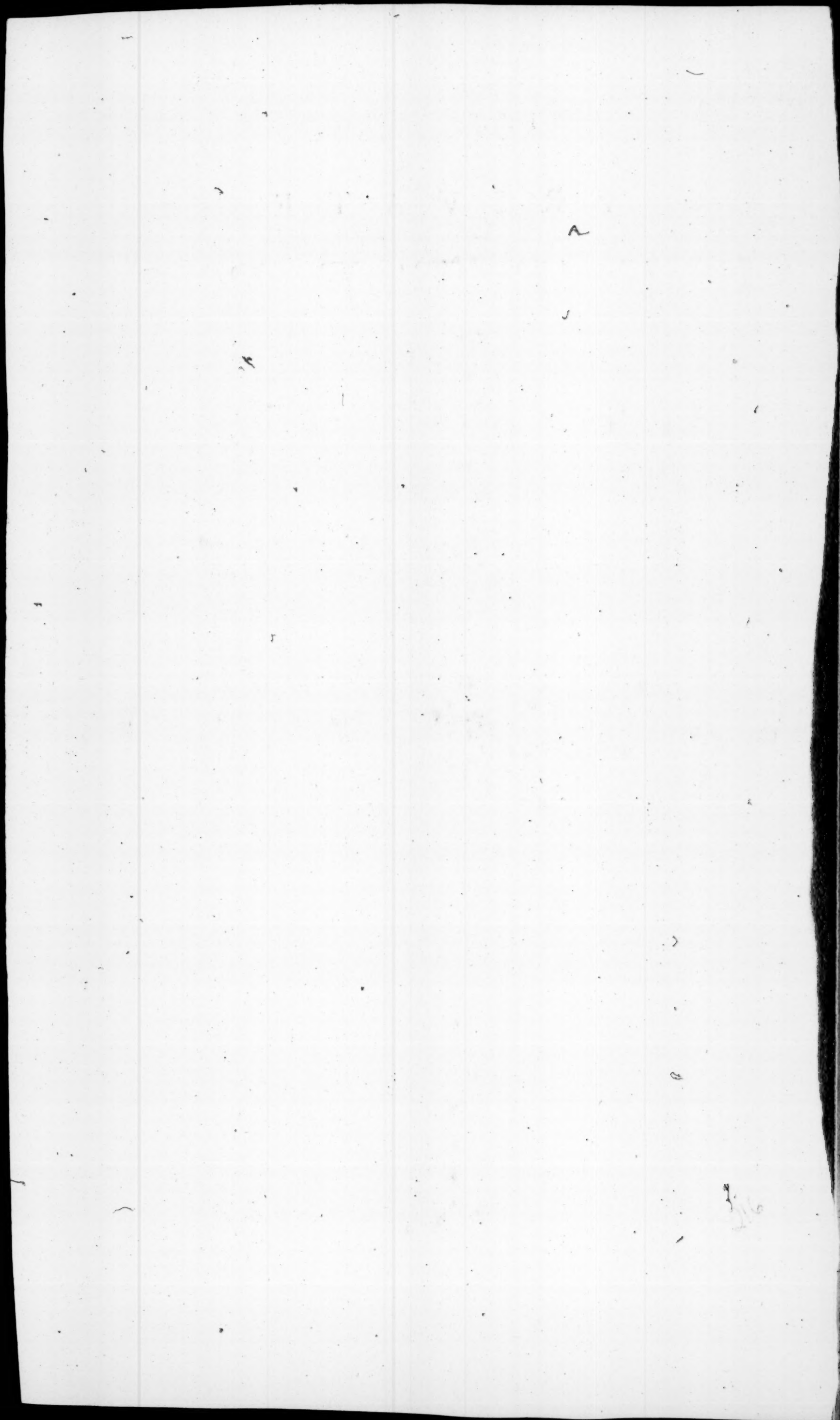
To which is ADDED,

My Lord Carteret's Letter to the Duke of Newcastle.

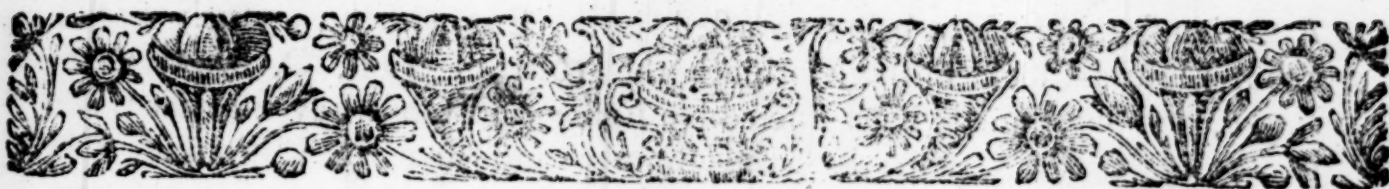
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THREE

Private LETTERS

FROM

*Persons of Distinction in the Army at Hanau,
to their Friends in London, &c.*

Hanau, about 1 at Noon, $\frac{1}{2}$ June.

DEAR FRIEND,



ORDERS were given for our immediate Departure from *Aschaffenburg*, and for the March of all the Baggage and Army, with a Design to extend ourselves towards this Place, in order to disappoint the *French* in the Attempt they might otherwise have made, to cut off our Junction with the *Hessians* and *Hanoverians*, who were coming up to join us, and were arrived near this Town: Accordingly, we all left *Aschaffenburg* about Eight in the Evening on *Wednesday* last the $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, and the whole Army, with his Majesty and all his Attendants, were in Motion soon after; which being observed by the *French*, they also struck their Tents, and began to march in the Night, in order to be at hand to prevent our joining, and made such Expedition therein, that they had crossed the River *Mayne*, with the greatest Part of their Army, by the Time we had got about Six *English* Miles from *Aschaffenburg* towards this Place, and near a little Village or Town called *Dettingen*, which obliged our Baggage, which was foremost, to return, and the Army to form itself immediately into Order of Battle, which there was not Time to do before they began Cannonading all our Troops in their March from several Batteries they had erected on the other Side the *Mayne*: And as our Forces were thus unexpectedly catch'd, and obliged so precipi-

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tately

tately to face the Enemy, under several Disadvantages, and that of the Ground they were upon in particular, scarce any Body was without Apprehensions of their being worsted in the Engagement, which began about Eight a-Clock in the Morning, the 16th of *June*, O. S. at *Dettingen*, and continued with incredible Force and Obstinacy till near three in the Afternoon, when by the Bravery and surprizing Intrepidity of the *English* Officers and Soldiers, the *French* were obliged to quit the Field of Battle, and repass the *Mayne*; in performing which, as well as during the Action, they lost great Numbers of Men, and some Officers of Distinction: Many others were also desperately wounded and taken Prisoners, particularly a Marchal du Camp, whose Name I can't remember, and Monsieur *de Fenelon*, Son to the *French* Ambassador at the *Hague*: Monsieur *le Duc de Noailles* is likewise said to be desperately wounded. I saw with my own Eyes near Twenty Persons, who were said to be great Officers, and by their Dresses appeared so, brought in Prisoners, most desperately wounded, and many of them in such a Way that they could not be expected to live. From three in the Afternoon till near nine a Clock, our People, after the Gross of the remaining Army of the *French* had repassed the *Mayne*, were employed in scouring the Woods, and searching all the adjacent Villages, for Stragglers and *Hussars*, in order to secure a free Communication for the King's Attendants and Baggage to *Hannau*, whither it was intended to go, but was stopped by this Incident of the Battle, and obliged to wait its Issue at some Distance till the same was over, when about nine in the Evening, not a *Frenchman* being to be seen, but what were Prisoners, or lay killed upon the Field of Battle. We all continued our Journey, as we could not reach *Hannau* within a reasonable Time at Night, to a little Village near it, and came hither afterwards this Morning, where we are all in perfect Health; and our Army being now extended and encamped near this Place, we shall soon be join'd by 12,000 Troops, *Hessians* and *Hanoverians*, when I suppose we shall, in our Turn, attack the *French*. Several of our oldest Officers declared they never saw a more obstinate and bloody Battle: We reckon, tho' it is very uncertain, that Six Thousand might be killed in the whole, of which, perhaps, Two Thousand might be reckoned of the Allied Army. General *Clayton* is kill'd; the Duke of *Cumberland* is slightly wounded by a Musquet-Shot thro' the lower Part of his Leg; several other Officers are wounded, but we know of none taken Prisoners. You may expect a more certain and regular Account by next Post.

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June 16, O. S.

My Lord,

THIS Morning, about Eight a Clock, the *French* Army, consisting of between 20 and 30,000 Men, under the Command of Marshal *Noailles*, having past the *Mayne* in the Night, attack'd our Army on their March from *Aschaffenburg* towards *Hanau*, whither they were going. The Action continued very hot till about Three a Clock in the Afternoon, when the *French* began to give Way, and were entirely routed, and a compleat Victory obtained over them. We drove them full Speed into the River *Mayne*, which they had been so foolhardy as to cross, and where no doubt many of them must have perished. This Push was made by Lieutenant General *Campbel* with a Body of 3000 Horse, who made great Slaughter amongst them. The Blues, together with General *Hawley's*, and General *Bland's* Regiments, have been severely handled, but behaved gallantly. The Numbers slain in this Action we have not had Time yet particularly to know, but as far as can be guess'd we judge they may amount on both Sides to upwards of 6000, in which Number we cannot reckon our own to be above 1000. The Persons of Distinction who fell on our Side, were only General *Clayton*, and Major *Honeywood*, but the Wounded were much more considerable. Amongst the latter are his Royal Highness the Duke of *Cumberland*, who was shot into the Leg, and a beautiful *Turkey* Horse killed under him; Brigadier General *Huske*, who also received a Shot in his Foot, and General *Ligonier* wounded in two Places, but not dangerously. Lord *Albemarle*, and several other General Officers had their Horses killed under them, but received no other Damage. His M A J E S T Y, who was in the Heat of the whole Action, and behaved with the greatest Steadiness and Resolution, had (G O D be prais'd) no Misfortune. We have taken several Officers of Note, many of which are mortally wounded, particularly Monsieur *Fenelon*, Son to the *French* Ambassador at the *Hague*. We are also assured that Monsieur *Noailles* is himself much wounded, but has escap'd falling into our Hands. As this is the Day on which the Action happened, and you may imagine we are in the greatest Hurry, I cannot give you a more particular Account, but must refer it to another Opportunity, which I hope will soon occur. We are now going to *Hanau*.

June

June 16, O. S.

Dear Sir,

THIS is the Evening of a glorious Day; I am just returned from beating the *French*: I am satisfied that nothing can give you greater Pleasure than this News, and therefore will give you as particular an Account of the Battle as the present Hurry will permit. Very early this Morning we received an Account that the *French* Army, consisting of 25,000 Men, under the Command of Marshal *Noailles*, had passed the River *Mayne* in the Night, in order to attack us before we were joined by the *Hessians* and *Hanoverians*. In order to conceal their March, and in hopes of amusing us, they first began to bombard the Town of *Alsbach-fenburgh* from across the River. But the Sagacity and Vigilance of his Majesty and the Earl of *Stair*, were not to be so amused. They immediately drew out the Army in the best Manner that the Time and Circumstances would admit. We found the *French* were superior to us in Number, and had disposed their Army very advantageously. Nevertheless, we were in the highest Spirits; and his Majesty, as if assured of Victory, ordered it to be given out amongst his Soldiers, that they should enjoy the Plunder of the Enemy. He was thanked by a general Shout. Betwixt Nine and Ten the Fight began, and the Action continued very desperate till about Four o'Clock in the Afternoon. The *French*, indeed, had before that Time begun to retire, but rallied again, and for some Time maintained a bloody Fight: But Lieutenant-General *Campbell*, with a Body of 3,000 Horse, was sent against them, the Bravery of whom the *French* could not resist, but began to fly with great Precipitation. Upon this our Army sent up a general Huzza, and the *French* thought of nothing now but how to repass the River, which they did in such Confusion, that no doubt many of them perished in it. I cannot yet give you a particular Account of the Loss on either Side, but that of the *French* is very considerable. Our greatest Misfortune is the Loss of General *Clayton*, who was shot dead in the Battle; as was also Major *Honeywood*. His Royal Highness is wounded in the Leg, but not dangerously. General *Ligonier*, and Brigadier General *Huske*, are both wounded, but in no Danger. Colonel *Pearce* is killed. Major *Johnson* has his Leg shot off. We have taken the Royal *French* Standard; and their *Gens d'Arms* are all either cut to Pieces or drowned in the *Mayne*. Mr. *Ranby* has under his Care about 150 *French* Officers. Lord *Abemarle* and Colonel *Driver*, and some other Officers had their Horses shot under them. But his Majesty, tho' all the Time in the thickest of the Battle, received no Hurt. We have taken Prisoners a prodigious Number of *French* Officers, amongst the rest Monsieur *Fenelon*, Son to the *French* Ambassador at the *Hague*, who tells us that their General *Noailles* was very much wounded. We are now upon the Field of Battle, and the Dead and Wounded are a dismal Sight; yet it is pleasant to see many of our common Soldiers strutting in Hats and

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and Feathers and fine Gold Trimmings, which they have taken from their conquered Enemies. I am just going to Supper, having neither eat nor drank since Yesterday at Noon, yet never was in better Spirits in my Life. The first Opportunity you shall have a more particular Account from

Your humble Servant.

P. S. We hear the Emperor is coming to *Franckfort*, in order to be under the Protection of the King of *Great Britain*.



Whitehall, June 23.

This Morning Mr. *Parker*, one of his Majesty's Messengers, arrived at the Duke of *Newcastle's* Office, with the following Letter from the Right Honourable the Lord *Carteier* to his Grace.

Dettingen, June 22, 1743.

My Lord,

HIS MAJESTY (God be prais'd) has this Day gained a very considerable Battle. The *French* passed the *Mayne* at this Place, with about 25000 Men, and have been forced to repass it with considerable Loss. I write this from the Village near the Field of Battle, which the *French* were in Possession of; by which Means we have secured our Conjunction with the *Hessians* and *Hanoverians*, in Number about 12,000, which are within two Leagues of us, and to intercept whom the *French* made this hazardous Attempt, which has failed them. His Majesty was all the Time in the Heat of the Fire; but is in perfect Health. The Duke received a Shot in the Leg, which pierc'd the Calf; but the Bone is not hurt: He is very well, and in high Spirits. I must refer the Particulars of this great Affair till To-morrow or next Day. General *Clayton* is kill'd; and we have taken several General Officers Prisoners, and many Officers of the *French* King's Household in their fine Cloaths. The Army lies all Night under Arms. I am in a Cottage with Marshal *Neiperg*. The *Austrians* behaved themselves with great Gallantry. The Duke *d'Aremberg* is wounded with a Musquet-Shot in the Breast. This is a good Beginning of the Campaign, the Emperor's

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peror's Auxiliaries having received a considerable Check, and they were the Aggressors.

I am ever, with the greatest Truth and Respect,

My Lord,

Your Grace's most humble,

And most obedient Servant,

CARTERET.

P. S. The *Hanoverian* Artillery has had a considerable Share in this Victory. The Battle began at Ten in the Morning and lasted to Four, when the Enemy repassed the *Mayne* with Precipitation.

F I N I S.

